

December 13, 2022

The Town of the Blue Mountains

Attn: Mayor and Council

Re: Working Remotely

First, I would like to congratulate all members for a successful campaign and a willingness to serve the community. I know it is early days but I am very encouraged by the thoughtful and pragmatic manner members are approaching the various issues.

Having said this, I am concerned regarding comments made at yesterday's Council meeting regarding the above subject by three members of our previous Council. This appears to be a concerted effort to discredit certain members of Council and create divisiveness within the community and Council. These actions are so reminiscent of past behaviour.

In the political arena, optics are paramount. Even though I fully support one's need to rest and recharge, the optics may prove damning. How does it look when a newly elected official is working remotely from a sunny resort when the economy is tanking and many residents are struggling to pay the bills and put food on the table? The stress of the times creates frustration and anger. The effectiveness of any elected official may be jeopardized if they become the target of that anger. I suggest a possible leave of absence may be more appropriate.

Respectfully

R. Tipping

cc: Clerk